DECLASSIFIED

Letitia Elliot, E and I left by train for Brighton this afternoon. We put up at the Metropole Hotel. We went to the Pavilion in our best dress clothes at 7:30. Following dinner, there were six speeches, one by me as follows.

I sat between the Countess of Rosse and the Mayor of Brighton. Afterwards, the guests made a tour of the Pavilion, during which we saw many new objects lent or purchased since our last visit there.

The banqueting room was particularly beautiful, since Lord Londonderry has placed on loan in it part of his famous collection of silver gilt. The whole atmosphere was interesting and sympathetic, the speeches by Lord Rosse and by Dr. Plumb being particularly good.

The principal guests were:

The Mayor and Mayoress of Brighton (Alderman and Mrs. W.H.G.Button)
Councillor and Mrs. G. R. Lucraft
Lady Birley
Sir Trenchard Cox (Director, Victoria & Albert Museum)
Mr. W. O. Dodd (Town Clerk of Brighton)
Sir Frank Francis and Lady Francis (Director British Museum)
Mr. J. S. Fulton (Vice-Chancellor, University of Sussex) and Mrs. Fulton
The Viscount and Viscountess Gage (Firle Place, Sussex)
Dr. D. B. Harden (Director, the London Museum) and Mrs Harden
Sir Eardley and Lady Holland
The Marquess and Marchioness of Londonderry
Dr. J. H. Plumb (Fellow Christ's College, Cambridge)
The Earl and Countess of Rosse
Sir William Teeling (M.P. Pavilion Division of Brighton)
Sir Anthony Wagner (Garter Principal King of Arms) and Lady Wagner

July 19, 1962 - Thursday

When we woke up one could hardly see the ocean from our waterfront room because of dense fog. We took the train back to London, where I went to the office. I have always liked Brighton, and do not subscribe to Dr. Johnson's opinion of it as [redacted] a place where a "man would hang himself if he could find a tree." The station master told me its popularity was constantly on the increase. There are 6,000 season ticket holders who commute back and forth from London daily.

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